

In the claims:

Please amend the claims for a first time as follows:

In claim 27, line 5, after "pump," please insert --- at least one reagent chamber containing one or more of a plurality of lysing agents, ---.

N.E. In claim 37, after "at least one pump;" please insert -- at least one reagent chamber coupled in fluid communication with the at least one pump for containing at least one lysing agent; ---.

Remarks

Claims 27 and 35 have been amended, and claims 27-35 remain pending in this application. In addition, the specification has been amended to update the status of the 08/370,023 parent application. No new matter has been added. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 27-35 are allowable.

Claims 27-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Yamamoto in view of Kabata and Taylor. In addition, claims 27-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Cellect Hematology in view of Kabata and Taylor. The Examiner's grounds for rejection are hereinafter traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Both Yamato and Cellect Hematology teach systems which are fixed to make the same dilution ratios, with the same volumes of reagent-mixture to correspond to each of a plurality of